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4 **National Shoreline Data Content Standard**  
5 **Working Draft**

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8 Standards Working Group  
9 Federal Geographic Data Committee

10

11 August 2006

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Federal Geographic Data Committee

Department of Agriculture • Department of Commerce • Department of Defense • Department of Energy  
Department of Housing and Urban Development • Department of the Interior • Department of State  
Department of Transportation • Environmental Protection Agency  
Federal Emergency Management Agency • Library of Congress  
National Aeronautics and Space Administration • National Archives and Records Administration  
Tennessee Valley Authority

35 Federal Geographic Data Committee

36

37 Established by Office of Management and Budget Circular A-16, the Federal Geographic  
38 Data Committee (FGDC) promotes the coordinated development, use, sharing, and  
39 dissemination of geographic data.

40

41 The FGDC is composed of representatives from the Departments of Agriculture,  
42 Commerce, Defense, Energy, Housing and Urban Development, the Interior, State, and  
43 Transportation; the Environmental Protection Agency; the Federal Emergency  
44 Management Agency; the Library of Congress; the National Aeronautics and Space  
45 Administration; the National Archives and Records Administration; and the Tennessee  
46 Valley Authority. Additional Federal agencies participate on FGDC subcommittees and  
47 working groups. The Department of the Interior chairs the committee.

48

49 FGDC subcommittees work on issues related to data categories coordinated under the  
50 circular. Subcommittees establish and implement standards for data content, quality, and  
51 transfer; encourage the exchange of information and the transfer of data; and organize the  
52 collection of geographic data to reduce duplication of effort. Working groups are  
53 established for issues that transcend data categories.

54

55 For more information about the committee, or to be added to the committee's newsletter  
56 mailing list, please contact:

57

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97 **1. Introduction**

98

99 ***1.1 Objective and Justification***

100

101           The location of our national shoreline is a baseline for legal boundaries, nautical  
102 charts, and commercial and natural resource utilization and management. Effective use  
103 of shoreline data requires a highly defined logical data structure that is interoperable,  
104 efficient and applicable to a broad base of government and private sector demands.  
105 Current practices have led to a highly variable shoreline data infrastructure. In  
106 accordance with Executive Order 12906, and subsequent Executive Order 13286 an  
107 amendment to E.O. 12906, initiatives for geospatial data standardization is underway.  
108 Domestically, Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) and the American National  
109 Standards Institute (ANSI) along with international organizations i.e. Internal  
110 Organization for Standardization (ISO) are catalysts for the development of geospatial  
111 standards. As a result, FGDC-STD-001.2.-2001, Shoreline Metadata Profile of the  
112 Content Standard for Digital Geospatial Metadata was developed. The National  
113 Shoreline Data Content Standard is intended to enhance the shoreline framework by  
114 providing technical guidance on shoreline semantics, data structures and their  
115 relationships to builders and users of shoreline data.

116

117           Shoreline definition protocols currently limit agencies and organizations from  
118 effectively sharing and using shoreline coincident data. Agencies have expressed an  
119 interest for greater harmonization and uniformity to shoreline data content. Enhancing  
120 shoreline content and interoperability is technically feasible and timely in relation to

---

121 hydrographic, hydrologic and other related standards development. The proposed  
122 standard shall tie related protocols and existing content together in a new model using  
123 recognized reference material, definitions, semantics, and structures. Harmonizing  
124 shoreline content will lead to cost savings by reducing the time in design, data re-use,  
125 training, and implementation. In addition, harmonizing shoreline data content assists in  
126 areas as coastal research, historical shoreline change analysis, shoreline change prediction  
127 analysis, and the effects of relative sea rise.

128

129 Relative to data transformation and fusion, the common framework reference for  
130 shoreline data would support the recommendation of the Coastal States Organization  
131 mentioned on page 51 of “A Geospatial Framework for the Coastal Zone” by the  
132 National Research Council of the National Academies:

133

134 “.. that the USACE together with NOAA, FEMA, USGS, and other appropriate  
135 agencies should be tasked to ‘identify, compile, integrate and make available to  
136 the states data and information on shoreline change and process, and work in  
137 conjunction with states and other local project sponsors to identify further  
138 information and data collection processes needed to fill the gaps in understanding  
139 a comprehensive approach to littoral system management’ (CSO 2002; pp 19-20)”  
140

141 Per project example, the United States Geological Survey is undertaking the task  
142 of developing the National Map <http://nationalmap.gov/>. This project is an example of  
143 the requirement for a common set base information. A common framework to support  
144 data fusion and data partners specific to shoreline as the National Resource Council states  
145 above.

146 **1.2 Scope**

147  
148       The geographical scope of the standard comprises all shorelines within the coastal  
149 and inland waterways for the United States, its Commonwealths, and Territories and any  
150 other possession that the United States exercises sovereignty.

151  
152       The functional scope of the standard includes the definition of data models,  
153 schemas, entities, relationships, definitions, and cross-walks to related standards. Legal  
154 controversy has historically surrounded shoreline definitions because of the boundary  
155 implications. This standard will provide a framework inclusive of multiple shoreline  
156 interpretations, and will not attempt to resolve disputed terminology. Data discovery,  
157 transmittal, display, and delivery are not currently part of this standard.

158 **1.3 Description of the Standard**

159  
160       The National Shoreline Data Content Standard provides a framework for  
161 shoreline data development, sharing of data, and shoreline data transformation and  
162 fusion. The standard defines attributes or elements that are common for shoreline data  
163 development. The standard provides suggested domains for the elements including a  
164 reference to the Shoreline Metadata Profile of the Content Standard for Digital Geospatial  
165 Metadata.

166 **1.4 Applicability and Intended Uses of the Standard**

167  
168       Mapping, shoreline engineering, coastal zone management, flood insurance, and  
169 the natural resource management communities will be the primary audience of this  
170 standard. The standard is intended to support the shoreline community in developing

171 shoreline data to support data transformation, data fusion, and data sharing. The standard  
172 is not reflective of an implementation design, an implementation or application design  
173 should, however, incorporate the concepts found in this standard.

## 174 **1.5 Relationship to Related Standards**

175  
176 Numerous logical relationships exist between the proposed standard and other  
177 standards currently published or are in development. Shoreline features are currently part  
178 of several standards providing reference to a specific shoreline definition. This standard,  
179 The National Shoreline Data Content Standard will provide information that encompasses  
180 shoreline variables and elements in greater detail and extent than existing standards.

- 181
- 182 • Content Standard for Digital Geospatial Metadata (version 2.0), FGDC-STD-001-  
183 1998
  - 184 • Content Standards for Framework Land Elevation Data, March 21, 2005, standard  
185 is at FGDC Step 9. Document date January 2000.
  - 186 • IHO Transfer Standard for Digital Hydrographic Data (S-57)
  - 187 • Cadastral Data Content Standard, FGDC-STD-003, 3<sup>rd</sup> Revision, May 2003
  - 188 • Geographic Information Framework Data Content Standards for Hydrography  
189 (ANSI)
- 190  
191

192 The Metadata Profile for Shoreline Data, FGDC-STD-001.2-2001, has a direct  
193 relationship to the National Shoreline Data Content Standard. The profile preceded the  
194 content standard. The intent of the metadata profile was a first attempt to provide  
195 shoreline developers with a framework in describing processes, tools, and techniques for  
196 creating geospatial shoreline data. As a result of the metadata profile being the sole  
197 source for shoreline data descriptors, feature attribution lacked the coherence and  
198 congruence due to geospatial shoreline data variability which resulted in the call for  
199 developing The National Shoreline Data Content Standard.

200

201 With the endorsement and adoption of the National Shoreline Data Content Standard  
202 by FGDC and shoreline constituents, the metadata profile will naturally undergo a  
203 process of examination and redevelopment. Redevelopment of the metadata profile  
204 follows the current FGDC maintenance procedures as stated in the Metadata Profile for  
205 Shoreline Data.

### 206 ***1.6 Standards Development Procedures***

207

208 This standard will follow the guidelines as prescribed by the FGDC, and will be  
209 overseen by the FGDC Marine and Coastal Spatial Data Subcommittee. The standard  
210 development and modeling advisory team will direct the project on a daily basis and  
211 report to Commander Brian K. Taggart, NOAA, as the primary sponsor. Additional  
212 direction will be provided by subscribers, contributors, and reviewers in their roles as  
213 defined in FGDC guidelines. List serve, email, teleconference and web based  
214 communications will be used to reach a broad constituency. Project team meetings will  
215 be scheduled on an as needed basis depending on available resources. The standards  
216 development and modeling advisory team will also present its findings and seek informal  
217 comments through presentations at regional and national conferences that are attended by  
218 the shoreline data community. Conferences of opportunity will be identified during the  
219 early development process.

220

221 Special attention will be given to evaluating the relationship of the proposed  
222 standard to the current Metadata Profile for Shoreline Data, FGDC-STD-001.2-2001.  
223 The Metadata Profile contains valuable references related to the proposed standard, and is  
224 a result of an early and possibly premature effort to develop a shoreline data content

---

225 standard. A recommendation will be presented to the Standards Working Group during  
226 the development process for modifying or harmonizing with the Metadata Profile for  
227 Shoreline Data.

### 228 **1.6.1 Participants**

229 Participant involvement via a Call for Participation was forwarded via e-mail to  
230 shoreline constituents nationwide. The levels of participation are described below which  
231 provides for a variety of voluntary level of support to the development group.

232 **Standards Development and Modeling Advisory Team:** Members who will be  
233 tasked with developing content definitions, assisting modelers, writing, and  
234 editing the Standard. This is the group of people who will be the most active  
235 participants in the process. A 6 month time period has been planned for the  
236 development of the National Shoreline Data Content Standard Working Draft.

237 **Reviewer:** Interested in reviewing various drafts of the Standard when ready.  
238 Reviewers will have a time requirement of up to 2 weeks depending on the review  
239 demands of the individual standard effort.

240 **Contributor:** Interested in offering model input, background information to be  
241 considered in design. The Contributor role will not require significant time  
242 commitments. However individuals who agree to this role will be expected to  
243 provide timely information when requested.

244 **Subscriber:** Interested in listening and staying informed about progress of the  
245 Standards Development and Modeling Advisory Team. The Subscriber role will

246 not require significant time commitments. However individuals who agree to this  
247 role will be expected to provide timely information when requested.

248 The list below is of individuals who have contributed to the development of the  
249 standard.

250

Name	Agency
Henry Norris	Florida Marine Research Institute
Bruce Potter	Island Resource Foundation
Karen J. Gray	NGA
Adam Bailey	NGA
Dennis Walker	NGA
Robert Wilson	NOAA
Greg Fromm	NOAA
Dave Stein	NOAA
Kimberly Owens	NOAA
Mike Brown	NOAA
Mike Rink	NOAA
Jeffrey Lillycorp	USACE
Jeff Williams	USGS
Richard Naito	MMS

251

252 The National Shoreline Data Content Standard Development and Modeling  
253 Advisory team was assisted by Daniel Martin of Perot Systems Government Service and  
254 chaired by William E. Linzey of NOAA. For further information regarding the standard  
255 visit the web page :

256 [http://www.fgdc.gov/standards/projects/FGDC-standards-projects/shoreline-data-  
258 content/?searchterm=shoreline](http://www.fgdc.gov/standards/projects/FGDC-standards-projects/shoreline-data-<br/>257 content/?searchterm=shoreline)

258

### 259 **1.7 Maintenance Authority**

260

261 The U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
262 Administration (NOAA), National Ocean Service (NOS), National Geodetic Survey

263 (NGS) will maintain the National Shoreline Data Content Standard. Maintenance  
264 guidelines of the National Shoreline Data Content Standard will follow the FGDC  
265 guidance as described by Directive #9 “Maintenance and Support”. Address questions  
266 concerning this standard to:

267  
268 Commander Brian K. Taggart, NOAA, NGS,  
269 Acting Chief, Remote Sensing Division  
270 NOS NMAO Route: N/NGS3  
271 BLDG: SSMC3 RM: 8209  
272 1315 EAST WEST HWY  
273 SILVER SPRING MD 20910-3282  
274 [brian.k.taggart@noaa.gov](mailto:brian.k.taggart@noaa.gov)  
275  
276

## 277 **2. Rationale for Design**

278

### 279 ***2.1 National Shoreline***

280 Transparent to technological methodologies, the National Shoreline Data Content  
281 Standard entail the development of a common data framework facilitating shoreline  
282 developers and users to readily share, transform, and fuse shoreline data.

283

284 The concept of a National Shoreline Data Content Standard is paramount in  
285 supporting shoreline data development and user activities. This concept is principal to  
286 shoreline due to the variety of shoreline definitions, domestic and international legal  
287 implications, methods of data capture, and lack of interoperable shoreline data among  
288 local, state, and federal entities. The existing variety of shoreline data structures provides  
289 an impediment towards the fusion of data in support of modeling tools.

290

291 Shoreline users require shoreline delineation at a variety of precision in both the  
292 horizontal and vertical datum to support a specified project purpose. Data modeling  
293 activities such as the V-Datum tool, for example, provides an effort towards developing  
294 seamless topography to hydrography data, essentially a seamless “land to sea floor” data  
295 set.

296  
297 With the absence of a referencing document (a content standard) providing for a  
298 common framework for shoreline data, efforts such as data transformation and data  
299 fusion would prove to be laborious due to the incongruence of shoreline data. The  
300 shoreline data content standard resolves the issue surrounding incongruence by creating a  
301 vehicle which provides for a common framework standard for shoreline data  
302 development.

303

## 304 ***2.2 Design of the Data Content Standard***

305

306 On Page seven of the FGDC March 1996 “Standards Reference Model” it states;  
307 “Data content standards provide semantic definitions of a set of objects ...” In essence, a  
308 data content standard is a finite set of information that communicates an essential set of  
309 elements for and at a feature level. The effort or premise in designing the National  
310 Shoreline Data Content Standard is to create an empirical form or format that represented  
311 shoreline geospatial data. This format is viewed as the common denominators required  
312 when developing shoreline data which promotes data integrity and cohesiveness in  
313 support of data development, data sharing, and data fusing. The derived model accounts  
314 for and incorporates aspects of the Shoreline Metadata Profile of the Content Standard for  
315 Digital Geospatial Metadata, FGDC-STD-001.2-2001. As a result, the approval of this

316 standard provides for the opportunity in updating and enhancing the Shoreline Metadata  
317 Profile of the Content Standard for Digital Geospatial Metadata, FGDC-STD-001.2-2001.

318

319 The elements considered to be essential or primary in shoreline data are found in  
320 the shoreline\_parent content. (*see diagram in Section 3 Data Model*). These elements  
321 were found to be the foundation or a common framework for shoreline geospatial data  
322 that will facilitate data sharing, transformation, and fusion.

323

324 Although the underpinnings for the content are found in the shoreline\_parent  
325 table, the elements providing expanded content are found in the support element tables,  
326 *see diagram in Section 3 Data Model*. The support content describes further the parent  
327 content elements by expanding on the set of entry variables for shoreline data.

328

## 329 **2.2.1 Shoreline Parent Table Elements**

330

### 331 Vertical Datum

332

333 A look up table provides for the referencing of the three classes of vertical datum:

334

335 • Tidal\_Datums lists datum that are affected by the tidal epoch. Datum that were  
336 and are derived for rivers, lakes, and oceans are included in this domain.

337

338 • Orthometric lists datum that are essentially equipotential surfaces of the earth tied  
339 to one or more tide stations as control points. North American Vertical Datum  
340 1988, NAVD88 is one example

341

342 • Ellipsoidal lists datum that are based on a geometric model of the earth, an  
343 ellipsoid. WGS84, World Geodetic System is an example of an ellipsoidal datum

344

345

### 346 Horizontal Datum

---

347 Provides a reference for the entry of the horizontal datum. A look up table lists examples  
348 of horizontal datum is provided.

349

350 Date

351 Provides for the calendar date entry of the original shoreline data capture.

352

353 Time

354 Provides for the time of day of the original shoreline data capture.

355

356 Shoreline Definition

357 Provides for existing shoreline definitions to be referenced in the development of  
358 shoreline data. This element will not establish *the* definition of shoreline, however, the  
359 standard recognizes the variety of shoreline definitions relative to the variety of purposes  
360 of shoreline data.

361

362 NSSDA\_H\_Value

363 Provides for the entry of the National Standard for Spatial Data Accuracy, FGDC-STD-  
364 007.3-1998, tested horizontal value from the statement of conformance under the  
365 Accuracy Reporting section.

366

367 NSSDA\_V\_Value

368 Provides for the entry of the National Standard for Spatial Data Accuracy, FGDC-STD-  
369 007.3-1998, tested vertical value from the statement of conformance under the Accuracy  
370 Reporting section.

371

372 Source\_Type and Source\_ID

373 Provides information regarding the source or sources in developing shoreline data.

374

375 Geometry ID

376 Provides information regarding the location system utilized. The information provided in

377 this table can be found in the Contents Standard for Digital Geospatial Metadata, FGDC-

378 STD-001-1998 section 4.

379

380 Classification and Classification\_ID

381 Provides for the entry of a shore area that exists at the time and date of shoreline data

382 capture. A variety of classifications can be used, such as the Environmental Sensitivity

383 Index (ESI) to classify this predominant shore area. Shoreline classification schemes are

384 numerous in which the Classification\_ID lists the known, at the time this standard was

385 written, shoreline classifications. A shoreline geospatial data developer is encouraged to

386 not only classify the shoreline but to identify the source of the classification being used.

387

388 Record Boundary

389 The Cadastral Data Content Standard, FGDC-STD-003, 3<sup>rd</sup> Revision, May 2003 provides

390 the attribution and suggested domain for this entry and is listed in the standard.



---

## 393 **4. Entities and Attributes Definitions**

394  
395       The entity and attribute diagram in Section 3.0, Data Model, provides an  
396 illustration of the National Shoreline Data Content Standard.

397  
398       The informative annexes provides lists of domain values that can be used during  
399 implementation of the standard. Where applicable, references and explanations of the  
400 elements in the domains are provided for further clarification and explanation. It is  
401 suggested during implementation, that null or void values not be entered, rather, where  
402 applicable, the use of not applicable or unknown for that entity or the actual value of the  
403 entity be entered.

### 404 405 **Vertical Datum**

406       For marine applications, a base used as a reference from which to reckon heights  
407 or depths. It is called a tidal datum when defined in terms of a certain phase of  
408 the tide. Tidal datums are local datum and should not be extended into areas  
409 which have differing hydrographic characteristics with substantiating  
410 measurements. In order that they may be recovered when needed, such datums  
411 are referenced to fixed points known as bench marks (Hicks,2000)

412

---

413           **Tidal**

414                   **Elevation Value**

415                   Numeric entry expression for a value identifying positive, above  
416                   the shoreline plane of reference, and negative, below the plane of  
417                   reference.

418

419                   **Epoch**

420                   Also known as phase lag. Angular retardation of the maximum of a  
421                   constituent of the observed tide (or tidal current) behind the corresponding  
422                   maximum of the same constituent of the theoretical equilibrium tide. It  
423                   may also be defined as the phase difference between a tidal constituent  
424                   and its equilibrium argument. As referred to the local equilibrium  
425                   argument, its symbol is  $k$ . When referred to the corresponding Greenwich  
426                   equilibrium argument, it is called the Greenwich epoch and is  
427                   represented by  $G$ . A Greenwich epoch that has been modified to adjust to  
428                   a particulate time meridian for convenience in the prediction of tides is  
429                   represented by  $g$  or by  $k'$ . The relations between these epochs may be  
430                   expressed by the following formula:

431                               
$$G = k + pL$$

432

433                               
$$g = k' = G - aS / 15$$

434                   in which  $L$  is the longitude of the place and  $S$  is the longitude of the time  
435                   meridian, these being taken as positive for west longitude and negative for  
436                   east longitude;  $p$  is the number of constituent periods in the constituent  
437                   day and is equal to 0 for all long-period constituents, 1 for diurnal

---

438 constituents, 2 for semidiurnal constituents, and so forth; and  $a$  is the  
439 hourly speed of the constituent, all angular measurements being expressed  
440 in degrees. (2) As used in tidal datum determination, it is the 19 year cycle  
441 over which tidal height observations are meaned in order to establish the  
442 various datums. As there are periodic and apparent secular trends in sea  
443 level, a specific 19 year cycle (the National Tidal Datum Epoch) is  
444 selected so that all tidal datum determinations throughout the United  
445 States, its territories, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and Trust Territory  
446 of the Pacific Islands, will have a common reference. (Hicks, 2000)

447

448 **Tidal\_Type**

449 Any of the entries in the Tidal\_Type\_Domain, including tidal  
450 datum not listed and described by “other” in the table are to use  
451 this entry.

452 **Orthometric**

453

454 **Orthometric\_Height**

455 The distance between the geoid and a point, measured along the vertical  
456 through the point and taken positive upward from the geoid. Also called  
457 orthometric elevation. Orthometric heights are used in topographic  
458 mapping.

459

460

---

461                   **Geoid Model**

462                   “A mathematical model that describes the surface of a geoid based upon a  
463                   geodetic datum and associated reference ellipsoid. The geoid model is  
464                   defined using a set of spherical harmonic coefficients or an implemented  
465                   set of algorithms in a computer program.”

466                   [http://www.august.com/epicentre/local/geoid\\_model.html](http://www.august.com/epicentre/local/geoid_model.html)

467

468                   **Bench Mark**

469                   A fixed physical object or mark used as reference for a horizontal  
470                   or vertical datum. A tidal bench mark is one near a tide station to  
471                   which the tide staff and tidal datums are referred. A primary bench  
472                   mark is the principal mark of a group of tidal bench marks to  
473                   which the tide staff and tidal datums are referred. The standard  
474                   tidal bench mark of the National Ocean Service is a brass, bronze,  
475                   or aluminum alloy disk 3-½ inches in diameter containing the  
476                   inscription NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE together with other  
477                   individual identifying information. A geodetic bench mark  
478                   identifies a surveyed point in the National Spatial Reference  
479                   System. Most geodetic bench mark disks contain the inscription  
480                   VERTICAL CONTROL MARK NATIONAL GEODETIC  
481                   SURVEY with other individual identifying information.  
482                   Benchmark disks of either type may, on occasion, serve  
483                   simultaneously to reference both tidal and geodetic datums.  
484                   Numerous bench marks of predecessor organizations to NOS, or  
485                   parts of other organizations absorbed into NOS, still bear the  
486                   inscriptions: U.S. COAST & GEODETIC SURVEY, NATIONAL  
487                   GEODETIC SURVEY, NATIONAL OCEAN SURVEY, U.S.  
488                   LAKE SURVEY, CORPS OF ENGINEERS, and U.S.  
489                   ENGINEER OFFICE. (Hicks 2000)

490

491                   **Orthometric\_Type**

492                   Any of the entries in the Orthometric\_Type\_Domain, including  
493                   “other” in the table are used for Orthometric types not listed in this  
494                   domain.

495

496

---

### **Ellipsoidal**

497

In geometric terms, a closed surface of which all planar sections are

498

ellipses. In general framework, GIS, and mapping practices, an ellipsoid is

499

a specific mathematical representation of the earth that more closely

500

approximates the shape of the surface than a sphere does.

501

502

### **Ellipsoidal\_Height**

503

The distance between the ellipsoid and a point, measured along the

504

vertical through the point and taken positive upward from the ellipsoid.

505

506

### **Geoid Model**

507

“A mathematical model that describes the surface of a geoid based upon a

508

geodetic datum and associated reference ellipsoid. The geoid model is

509

defined using a set of spherical harmonic coefficients or an implemented

510

set of algorithms in a computer program.”

511

[http://www.august.com/epicentre/local/geoid\\_model.html](http://www.august.com/epicentre/local/geoid_model.html)

512

513

### **Bench Mark**

514

See Orthometric Bench Mark.

515

---

516                    **Ellipsoidal\_Type**

517                    Any of the entries in the Ellipsoidal\_Type\_Domain, including  
518                    “other” in the table are used for Ellipsoidal types not listed in this  
519                    domain.

520                    **Horizontal\_Datum**

521                    A geodetic reference point that is the basis for horizontal control surveys and  
522                    consists of five quantities: latitude, longitude, the azimuth of a line from the  
523                    reference point, and two constants that are the parameters of the reference  
524                    ellipsoid. The datum may extend over an area of any size.

525

526                    **Horizontal Datum Domain**

527                    Provides a list of datum that may be used for the identification of the  
528                    horizontal datum in use. Though there are numerous horizontal datum in  
529                    use, the table provides examples of datum that are used.

530

531                    **Date**

532                    Provides for the calendar date entry of the original shoreline data capture. In an  
533                    implementation model, the reference to date representations in the Content  
534                    Standard for Digital Geospatial Metadata, FGDC-STD-001.1998, is suggested.

535

536                    **Time**

537                    Provides for the time of day of the original shoreline data capture. In an  
538                    implementation model, the reference to time representations in the Content  
539                    Standard for Digital Geospatial Metadata, FGDC-STD-001.1998, is suggested.

540

541 **Shoreline Definition**

542 The content lists provides shoreline definitions in which three definitions are cited  
543 below. Though there are many legal and non-legal definitions for shoreline, data  
544 developers are encouraged to provide the definition used for shoreline data.

545 Shoreline (coastline) – The intersection of the land with the water surface. The  
546 shoreline shown on charts represent the line of contact between the land a  
547 selected water elevation. In areas affected by tidal fluctuations, this line of  
548 contact is the mean high water line. In confined coastal waters of diminished tidal  
549 influence, the man water level line may be used. (Hicks 2000)

550

551 Shoreline - The line of contact between the land and a body of water. On Coast  
552 and Geodetic Survey nautical charts and surveys the shoreline approximates the  
553 mean high water line. In Coast Survey usage the term is considered synonymous  
554 with coastline. (Shalowitz, 1964)

555

556 Shorelines - General term including tidelands and navigable freshwater shores  
557 below the ordinary high water mark (Coastal States Organization 1997)

558

559 **NSSDA\_H\_Value**

560 Provides for the entry of the National Standard for Spatial Data Accuracy, FGDC-STD-  
561 007.3-1998, tested value from the statement of conformance under the Accuracy  
562 Reporting section.

563

---

564 **NSSDA\_V\_Value**

565 Provides for the entry of the National Standard for Spatial Data Accuracy, FGDC-STD-  
566 007.3-1998, tested value from the statement of conformance under the Accuracy  
567 Reporting section.

568

569 **Source Type**

570 Provides for the definition of the source.

571 **Source\_Type\_ID**

572 Provides for the specific identification of the source data. This instance,  
573 the “source\_type\_id” can be utilized in an application model.

574 **Geometry\_ID**

575 Provides for the expression of horizontal, x and y, and the vertical, z, for feature  
576 coordinates including the Coordinate\_Reference.

577 **Coordinate\_Reference\_ID**

578 Describes the coordinate system the coordinates represent.

579 **Geographic**

580 The quantities of latitude and longitude which define the position  
581 of a point on the Earth's surface with respect to a reference  
582 spheroid.

583

584 **Planar**

585 A two-dimensional measurement system that locates features on a  
586 map based on their distance from an origin (0, 0) along two axes, a

---

587 horizontal x-axis representing east–west and a vertical y-axis  
588 representing north–south.

589

590 **Map Projection**

591 The systematic representation of all or part of the surface of the  
592 Earth on a plane or developable surface.

593

594 **Classification**

595 Classification provides an entry for the description of the shore area. Exposed  
596 rocky shore, an example of shore area classification, is from page 12 of the  
597 NOAA Technical Memorandum NOS OR&R 11 Environmental Sensitivity Index  
598 Guidelines version 3.0. There is, to date, no one shoreline classification standard  
599 therefore citing the source of the classification utilized is recommended.

600 **Classification ID**

601 Shoreline Classification name for the shore area described.

602 **Classification System**

603 Cite the schema utilized when providing the classification of the shoreline,  
604 ex, “NOAA Technical Memorandum NOS OR&R 11 Environmental  
605 Sensitivity Index Guidelines version 3.0”

606

607 **Record\_Boundary\_ID**

608 **Record\_Boundary**

609 **Boundary\_Reference\_Domain**

610 **Legal\_Status\_Domain**

611

612           The Cadastral Data Content Standard provides the attribution and suggested  
613 domain for this entry of the element Record\_Boundary\_ID and the associated tables,  
614 Record\_Boundary, Boundary\_Reference\_Domain and Legal\_Status\_Domain. See  
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657

## 658 **6. APPENDICES**

659

### 660 ***6.1 Informative Appendix***

#### 661 **6.1.1 Informative Appendix 1: Tidal Type Domain**

662

663 Chart Datum – The datum to which soundings on a chart are referred. It is usually taken  
664 to correspond to a low-water elevation, and its depression below mean sea  
665 level is represented by the symbol  $Z_0$ . Since 1980, chart datum has been  
666 implemented to mean lower low water for all main waters of the United  
667 States, its territories, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and Trust Territory  
668 of the Pacific Islands. (Hicks 2000)

669

670 Lowest Astronomical Tide – As defined by the International Hydrographic Organization,  
671 the lowest tide level that can be predicted to occur under average meteorological  
672 conditions and under a combination of astronomical conditions. (Hicks 2000)

673

674 Mean Sea Level – A tidal datum. The arithmetic mean of hourly heights observed over  
675 the National Tidal Datum Epoch. Shorter series are specified in the name; e.g.,  
676 monthly mean sea level and yearly mean sea level. (Hicks 2000)

677

---

678 Mean Low Water Springs – A tidal datum. Frequently abbreviated spring low water. The  
679 arithmetic mean of the low water heights occurring at the time of spring tide  
680 observed over the National Tidal Datum Epoch. It is usually derived by taking an  
681 elevation depressed below the half tide level by an amount equal to one-half the  
682 spring range of tide, necessary corrections being applied to reduce the result to a  
683 mean value. This datum is used, to a considerable extent, for hydrographic work  
684 outside of the United States and is the level of reference for the Pacific  
685 approaches for the Panama Canal. (Hicks 2000)

686

687 Spring Tides or Tidal Currents – Tides of increased range or tidal currents of increased  
688 speed occurring semimonthly as the result of the Moon being new or full. The  
689 spring tides and is most conveniently computed from the harmonic constantans.  
690 It is larger than the mean range where the type of tides is either semi diurnal or  
691 mixed, and is of no practical significance where the type of the tide is  
692 predominately diurnal. The average height of the high waters of the spring tides  
693 is called spring high water or mean high water springs (MHWS) and the average  
694 height of the corresponding low water or mean low water springs (MLWS).  
695 (Hicks 2000)

696

697 Neap Tides or Tidal Currents – Tides of decreased range or tidal currents of decreased  
698 speed occurring semimonthly as the result of the Moon being in quadrature. The  
699 neap range (Np) of the tide is the average range occurring at the time of neap tides  
700 and is most conveniently computed from the harmonic constants. It is smaller  
701 than the mean range where the type of tide is either semidiurnal or mixed and is of

---

702 no practical significance where the type of tide is predominately diurnal. The  
703 average height of the high waters of the neap tides is called neap high water or  
704 high water neaps (MHWN) and the average height of the corresponding low  
705 waters is called neap low water or low water neaps.

706

707 Mean Diurnal Tide Level – (MDTL) A tidal Datum. The arithmetic mean of the mean  
708 higher high water and the mean low lower water (Hicks, 1984)

709

710 Mean High Water – A tidal datum. The average of all the high water heights observed  
711 over the National Tidal Datum Epoch. For stations with shorter series,  
712 comparison of simultaneous observations with a control tide station is made in  
713 order to derive the equivalent datum of the National Tidal Datum Epoch. (Hicks  
714 2000)

715

716 Mean Higher High Water – A tidal datum. The average of the higher high water height  
717 of each tidal day observed over the National Tidal Datum Epoch. For stations  
718 with shorter series, comparison of simultaneous observations with a control tide  
719 station is made in order to derive the equivalent datum of the National Tidal  
720 Datum Epoch. (Hicks 2000)

721

722 Mean Low Water – A tidal datum. The average of all the low water heights observed  
723 over the National Tidal Datum Epoch. For stations with shorter series,  
724 comparison of simultaneous observations with control tide station is made in

---

725 order to derive the equivalent datum of the National Tidal Datum Epoch. (Hicks  
726 2000)

727

728 Mean Lower Low Water – A tidal datum. The average of all low water heights observed  
729 over the National Tidal Datum Epoch. For stations with shorter series,  
730 comparison of simultaneous observations with a control tide station is made in  
731 order to derive the equivalent datum of the National Tidal Datum Epoch. (Hicks  
732 2000)

733

734 Gulf Coast Low Water Datum line – The line on a chart or map which represents the  
735 intersection of the land with the water surface at the elevation of Gulf Coast Low  
736 Water Datum. (Hicks 2000)

737

738 Other – tidal datums not described or defined in this domain.

### 739 **6.1.2 Informative Appendix 2: Horizontal Datum Domain**

740

741 North American Datum of 1927

742 North American Datum of 1983

743 Old Hawaiian

744 Puerto Rico

745 Other

---

746 **6.1.3 Informative Appendix 3: Shoreline Definition Domain**

747

748 Shoreline (coastline) – The intersection of the land with the water surface. The shoreline  
749 shown on charts represents the line of contact between the land and a selected water  
750 elevation. In areas affected by tidal fluctuations, this line of contact is the mean high  
751 water line. In confined coastal waters of diminished tidal influence, the mean water level  
752 line may be used. (Hicks 1984)

753

754 User Defined – Shoreline definitions as defined by the shoreline data developer.

755

756 Other – Shoreline definitions, legal, technical, and scientific that are not listed in this  
757 domain.

758

759 **6.1.4 Informative Appendix 4: Boundary Reference Domain**

760

761 Baseline – The line from which maritime zone are measured. The normal baseline for  
762 measuring the territorial sea (TS), contiguous zone (CZ), exclusive economic  
763 zone (EEZ), and continental shelf is the low-water line along the coast.

764

765 Submerged Lands Act – Federal Legislation that granted to the coastal states federal  
766 rights to natural resources within 3 nautical miles (up to 9 miles for Texas and the  
767 Gulf coast of Florida) of the coast line. *43 U.S.C 1301 et seq.*

768

769 Seaward State Boundary - The limit of the state's jurisdictions under the Submerged

---

770 Lands Act (SLA). Although many exceptions exist, the land and resources  
771 between the ordinary high water mark and the state seaward boundary (SSB) are  
772 generally held in trust by the coastal state for the benefit of the public (CSO  
773 1997).

774

775 Revenue Sharing Boundary - Provided for states to claim an equitable share of revenues  
776 when a federal lease is within three miles of the territorial sea boundary. The  
777 amendments mandate that 27 percent of all revenues from production within three  
778 miles seaward of the federal/state boundary is to be given to the states.

779

780 Territorial Sea – The offshore belt in which a coastal state has exclusive jurisdiction. The  
781 territorial sea may not extend more than 12 nautical miles from the coast line.

782

783 Contiguous Zone – A zone seaward of the territorial sea in which coastal states may  
784 assert jurisdiction short of complete sovereignty. Article 24 of the Convention on  
785 the Territorial Sea and the Contiguous Zone authorizes such a zone “to prevent  
786 infringement of its customs, fiscal, immigration or sanitary regulations in territory  
787 or territorial sea....” Under the Convention the contiguous zone may extend no  
788 more than 12 miles from the coastline. See also: 1982 Law of the Sea  
789 Convention, Article 33.

790

791 Continental Shelf Limit - Article 76 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the  
792 Sea (UNCLOS) provides a definition and a detailed formula for determining the  
793 limit of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles. Consistent with Article

---

794 76 of UNCLOS and the 1958 Convention on the Continental Shelf, the U.S.  
795 continental shelf is comprised of the sea-bed and subsoil of the submarine areas  
796 that extend beyond its territorial sea throughout the natural prolongation of its  
797 land territory to the outer edge of the continental margin, including that portion  
798 beyond 200 nautical miles from the baseline. Under international law, the  
799 continental shelf is defined to include the sea-bed and subsoil beyond the  
800 continental margin out to a distance of 200 nautical miles from the baseline. The  
801 U.S. has sovereign rights and exclusive jurisdiction over the exploration and  
802 exploitation of the continental shelf.

803  
804 Exclusive Economic Zone - The zone or area beyond and adjacent to the territorial sea. In  
805 this area, the U.S., like other coastal nations, has sovereign rights and exclusive  
806 jurisdiction to protect and manage its natural resources, including any economic  
807 development. The seaward limit of the EEZ is generally 200 nautical miles from  
808 the baseline. The U.S. does not have sovereignty in the EEZ as it does in its  
809 territory. Foreign vessels and nationals maintain the high seas freedoms or rights  
810 of navigation and over flight in the EEZ, as well as the right to lay and maintain  
811 submarine cables and pipelines. However, such rights are still subject to  
812 regulation by the U.S. in accordance with international law, including UNCLOS.

813  
814 Offshore Lease Blocks - An offshore cadastre that defines approved subdivisions of the  
815 outer continental shelf (OCS) within federal jurisdiction.

816

---

817 International Maritime Boundaries - The U.S. continental shelf and exclusive economic  
818 zone (EEZ) claims cover approximately three million square miles of ocean  
819 space. Overlapping boundaries with other nations exist in 25 situations.  
820 International maritime boundaries are those agreed upon by one or more countries  
821 to resolve these overlapping claim issues.

822

823 National Marine Sanctuary Boundaries - National Marine Sanctuaries Act (16 U.S.C. §§  
824 1431 et seq.); *Code of Federal Regulations* (15 C.F.R. 922.41).

825

826 National Estuarine Research Reserve System Boundaries - Coastal Zone Management  
827 Act, as amended, sec. 315 (16 U.S.C. § 1461).

828

### 829 **6.1.5 Informative Appendix 5: Legal Status Domain**

830

831 Ambulatory

832 Tidal

833 Disputed

834 Adjudicated

835 Connecting Line

836 Computed

837 Duplicate

838 Archived

839 **6.1.6 Informative Appendix 6: Source Type Domain**

840

841 Air Photo –Remotely Sensed data collected by an airborne platform.

842 LIDAR – Airborne Light Detection and Ranging derived data.

843 Land Survey – This aspect includes GPS surveying and conventional surveying.

844 Modeled – Mathematically derived shoreline data.

845 NOAA Chart – The shoreline as cartographically depicted from officially published

846 NOAA marine charts.

847 USGS Topographic Sheet - The shoreline as cartographically depicted from officially

848 published topographic sheets from USGS.

849

850 User Defined – Other sources of information not listed in this domain would be sourced

851 utilizing this field.

852 **6.1.7 Informative Appendix 7: Classification System Domain**

853

854 Provides lists of known shoreline classifications. Though no shoreline

855 classification standard currently exists, the list provided were found to be most

856 prevalently used within the shoreline community.

857

858 Environmental Sensitivity Index, ESI

859 Army Corp of Engineers

860 National Wetlands Inventory

861 User Defined